

LAW NO AID TO LABOR

GOV. RICH SAYS CAPITAL HAS THE ADVANTAGE.

Suggests the Organization of Corporations of Labor as a Remedy for Strikes—Document Covers Nearly Every Department of the State.

Message of the Governor.

Lansing correspondence: The feature of Thursday's legislative session was the message of Gov. Rich. The Governor appeared at 2 o'clock and was greeted with great applause by the vast audience, consisting of all the Senators, Representatives, Supreme Court judges, State officers and citizens from various parts of the State. The message was not long, occupying about forty minutes in its delivery, and was in part as follows:

Nov. 1, 1893, after the appointment of the primary school fund was made, for the first time in many years Michigan confronted an empty treasury. This was not caused so much by increased expenditures, as it was by the failure of the Legislature of 1891 to levy sufficient taxes.

Sec. 3, of Article XIV, of the Constitution, provides that the State shall not contract debts to meet deficits in revenue to aggregate more than \$50,000 at any one time. This provision of the Constitution was adopted more than forty years ago, when \$50,000 represented more than five times that amount does today. It would seem to me advisable to provide for so amending the Constitution as with proper restrictions to put it within the power of the State to borrow money in cases of necessity, rather than carry so large a balance. I desire to renew my recommendation of two years ago that if possible some means be devised for the abrogation of all special charters, so that all our railroads may be placed upon the same basis so far as taxation and supervision and other legislation is concerned.

The action of the Legislature two years ago in providing for the one-sixth mill tax places the State University upon a proper and substantial foundation. With the increased amount charged for tuition and a gradual increase of the fund as the value of taxable property in the State increases will place this institution beyond the need of asking further aid from the Legislature for years to come. The Michigan Mining School, when age and all things are considered, stands at the head of this class of institutions. It, in the nature of things, is a very expensive school. I would recommend that you take some measures, if possible, without in any way injuring the school, to provide that those having the benefit of it shall bear some portion of the large expense necessary to maintain it.

In the principal State insane asylums there are 3,226 beds and 3,164 inmates, leaving sixty-two unoccupied beds. For ten years past the average annual increase in the number admitted to the State asylums has been about 165, so that there is to-day provision for less than the average number of inmates who would be admitted to the asylums within the next six months. The increased accommodations afforded by the new asylum at Newberry might be augmented at a minimum expenditure by enlarging the Home for Feeble-Minded and Epileptic at Lapeer, so the epileptics at present in our State asylums may be transferred to that institution. Aside from providing for the increase in the number of inmates there does not seem to be any necessity for additional legislation in regard to insane asylums.

Maintenance of State Prisons. The State Prison at Jackson, State House of Correction and Reformatory at Ionia, and Branch Prison at Marquette, constituting the prisons of the State, continue to be a heavy burden upon the taxable property of the State. The total cost of keeping of 306 prisoners who were the average number for the last two years, was \$644,328. The cost over and above the earnings was \$210,841. The cost at Jackson, where there was an average of 819 prisoners, was 41 cents an inmate a day; Ionia, \$1.08, and at Marquette, \$1.13. At Marquette the executive expenses are comparatively large, as the number of inmates cared for is small, and, owing to the rigorous climate and distance from supplies, the expense of keeping prisoners there is larger. There must have been some thing either radically wrong in the management at Ionia or the business was run in such a way that a large amount of money was lost. The former warden of this institution was removed for cause. Since the change in warden there has been a marked reduction in the prices of articles bought, but it is not probable that all the reforms needed have yet been adopted. The State accountant has been ordered to conduct an investigation, and he reports verbally that the system of keeping accounts is imperfect, and that many of the practices there should be changed. It is hoped the law may be amended so as to provide for better methods and much less expense to the State for keeping prisoners. This brings up the question of contract labor. In Jackson prison, where most of the prisoners are on contract, the result is such as to show that had all the men been employed the prison would have been self-supporting and possibly a little more, and it can hardly be said that there was any serious interference with free labor there. It is clearly shown that contractors of prison labor do not usually make larger profits than those who employ free labor, so that the competition cannot be very severe. No warden, however competent he may be, is capable of carrying on successfully, in all their details, anywhere from ten to twenty-five different branches of business. It is needless to call your attention to the fact that it is not practicable or reformatory to keep prisoners without labor. It is sincerely hoped no action will be taken to deprive the prison management of the right to contract the labor of the prisoners.

See, 11 of Art. 5 of the Constitution of Michigan, relative to the duties of the Governor, provides he may grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons after conviction for all offenses, except treason and cases of impeachment, upon such conditions and with such restrictions and limitations as he may think proper, subject to regulations provided by law relative to the manner of applying for pardons. It seems to me that a law should be en-

acted so as to make it practicable, upon the recommendation of the proper board, that this provision of the Constitution could be carried out literally. It is also desirable that some provision be made, in case of persons sentenced for a term of years, by providing either for the filing of the testimony complete, or of a history of the case, with any aggravating or mitigating circumstances connected therewith in the Executive office to be used in cases where after years have elapsed an application for pardon is made.

Act No. 126, public acts of 1893, entitled "An act to regulate the employment of women and children in manufacturing establishments of this State, to provide for the inspection and regulation of such manufacturing establishments, and to provide for the enforcement of such regulation and inspection" has proven a good one. Upon this act the Commissioner of Labor has appointed factory inspectors, who have inspected more than 400 factories and caused a large number of improvements to be made in machinery, fire escapes, etc., and has also prevented the violation of the law in regard to the employment of women and children, has preserved labor from unfair competition, and has had a tendency to keep children, who have been in factories and who should have been in school, in their proper places. There is no doubt this work could properly be extended further than it has been.

Salaries of State Officers.

I cannot too strongly urge that you again submit to the people an amendment to the constitution increasing the salaries of State officers. While the people failed to vote this increase both in 1891 and 1893 the resolution was a meritorious one, and had the people understood the real situation they would have voted it cheerfully. The officers comprising the Board of State Auditors also hold the important positions of Secretary of State, State Treasurer, and Commissioner of the State Land Office, respectively, two of whom receive only \$800 per annum, while the other, the State Treasurer, receives but \$1,000. Owing to the meager salary and the impossibility of compelling a man of ordinary means to leave his business and live at the Capitol, or of a man attending habitually to his duties, it has made it necessary to employ deputies who are competent to do the work of the principal, and paying them a liberal salary. There is a difference between power and responsibility, and power without responsibility. It cannot be doubted that the interests of the State of Michigan would be greatly benefited by requiring all the State officers to attend personally to the duties of their offices. It is not only in the interest of economy but in the interest of good government. The Superintendent of Public Instruction is another important State official of whom very much is expected and who is only paid \$1,000 per year. The Attorney General is paid only the insignificant salary of \$800 per annum, and he is expected to be the legal adviser of all the State officers, elective and appointive, and the legal adviser to the prosecuting attorneys of the State and various other officials, and is expected to give legal advice in real estate and criminal matters, also in railroad, insurance, and various other departments, and where corporations employ attorneys educated and experienced in these particular branches. It cannot help resulting in a loss to the State.

Labor Strikes.

During the summer of 1894 Michigan, as well as her sister States, suffered from the great labor strikes which occurred during the last days of July. The strike was the pertinent question. What can be done to prevent them in the future? Is there not some way in which the difference between capital and labor can be adjusted without the disastrous resort to strikes? Capital is sensitive, and it may be questioned whether the very means used by labor organizations to increase wages and get other concessions to better their conditions does not in the end have the opposite effect, in causing capital to seek investment in some other line which does not require the employment of labor. Labor organizations have done much in educating and aiding each other in times of need. By their organization they have wielded a power which has compelled concessions from employers which individually they could not have obtained. No matter how orderly the manner of a strike started in, or how strong the resolutions passed to preserve order and refrain from violence or damage to property, it almost invariably happens that before a settlement is effected there is more or less violence used. In any event it is a place where the lawless element congregates ready for the first opportunity for violence and plunder. Among all the numerous sufferers from strikes none suffer so severely and in the end so disastrously as those engaged in the strike. They also find it much more difficult to recover from its effect than any others. Arbitration, compulsory and voluntary, is proposed as a remedy for the existing evils, but this does not seem to meet the requirements. Voluntary arbitration involves a mutual agreement to submit matters of difference to arbitrators to be agreed upon, and a further agreement to abide by the decision when rendered. There is ample legal machinery for this now. Compulsory arbitration will be only establishing another court or courts, in which these difficulties can be settled. In case one party to the disagreement should invoke the aid of this new court he must show a violation of contract and an infringement of personal or property rights, or the court would have no jurisdiction. If any of these things have been done, then the courts now existing have jurisdiction and can furnish the remedy. It will be found impossible under our form of government to compel any corporation or individual to employ men or to pay them any particular wages. Men of means will suspend or abandon business if its management is taken from their control. It will be found equally useless to try and compel men to work unless it is for their interests to do so. In the end there must be mutual agreement between employer and employee, such as will be mutually beneficial, or such relation cannot long exist. Any agreement of this character must also be based on principles of equity and justice. The demands of civilization have made the creation of artificial persons a necessity, and much as corporations are condemned modern civilization cannot get along without them. Laws have been enacted providing for the association of capital in large operations which would be impossible for an individual to do, and many times the investment is of such a character that no prudent man would be willing to invest his all in it, but is willing to venture a fixed amount, which if lost will not ruin him. Thus corporations are given certain powers

and privileges, and upon them is imposed certain limited liabilities and responsibilities. On the other hand labor has been left to fight on single-handed so far as law is concerned.

Incorporation Labor Unions.

The necessities of labor have, however, caused them to organize among themselves, but in order to accomplish their object they have been led to do many things not authorized by law, and in some instances in direct violation of law. Under the existing circumstances it would seem to be the part of wisdom and justice to provide for the organizations of corporations of labor, with as much power and no greater liability than is imposed on corporations of capital. Create them as a body corporate, which may make contracts and enforce them, and be empowered in turn to sue and be sued, and in short to do anything they may be authorized to do in the articles of incorporation. This would place them on an equality, and difficulties between capital and labor would be settled as other difficulties and disagreements are settled, through the courts. It is hardly consistent to condemn labor organizations for taking the law into their own hands unless some lawful and practicable method is provided for the protection of their interests. There is little doubt that there are difficulties in the way of carrying out this plan, and it is hardly probable that any law enacted would at first be satisfactory, but with the object kept steadily in view of providing for equitable contracts and an equitable and practical method for their enforcement, in the end success is certain.

As the law now stands the appropriations for the use of the geological survey are paid out upon the order of the Governor. There seems to be no good reason why this fund should not take the regular course of other appropriations. There is very little if any complaint with reference to the present election law, but in the interest of accuracy and to avoid any change in the returns I renew the recommendation of two years ago that provisions be made for counting the vote at intervals during the day by a separate board. As fast as the result is known it should also be posted in at least one public place and signed by the board, and further results should be added to it during the day. This would prevent any changes for partisan purposes later in the day. With this arrangement the result of election in most cases would be known and the returns made out as early as 6 or 7 o'clock in the evening, and as boards usually receive pay for two days there would be no increase in expense, but there would be a guaranty of greater accuracy, because the men would be fresh and would have ample time to count the votes and declare the result. The present method of canvassing votes by the Board of County Canvassers is expensive, and no better done than it could be by a much smaller board. This is a matter well worthy of your consideration. By the provisions of Act No. 169, Public Acts of 1893, the Governor was authorized to appoint a commission to prepare and report a general municipal corporation bill, under which all municipalities may become incorporated, and this commission has worked faithfully and earnestly to accomplish what the act imposed upon it. It is hoped that this report will be such that without material amendment or alteration it may be passed early in the session and become a law. I would also urge that an amendment to the Constitution be early submitted to the people providing that the Legislature shall hereafter not be permitted to enact special municipal charters. A bill providing for the incorporation of villages, and one for the smaller cities are already prepared and in print, and will be found upon your desks. If these bills are passed early in the session it will save a great deal of work on proposed amendments to various city and village charters throughout the State.

The number of building and loan and similar associations in the State, the large amount of money which they have loaned and on deposit, and the number of people who are interested in their management, would seem to demand that the State should require reports to be made from these associations, and that they should also be subjected to some State supervision.

CANADIAN SHIPBUILDERS.

Eventually to Control the Industry Because of Canada's Nickel Supply.

It is predicted by a writer in the London Economist that Canada will eventually control the shipbuilding industry, and this from a remarkable fact of only recent realization. It is now practically proved, he argues, that steel mixed with from three to five per cent of nickel is double the strength of ordinary steel, and as it doesn't corrode or take on barnacles ships constructed of it will possess the very great advantage of never requiring to be scraped. Moreover, as ships of nickel-steel may safely be built much lighter than ordinary steel ships, their engine power and consumption of coal may be safely reduced without diminution of speed. In short, according to this writer, such steel seems bound to supersede the ordinary article, and probably also all other materials in present use in ship construction; and this being the case, the nation which is in position to produce this metal must necessarily control the shipbuilding industry. For the present, at least, there is no considerable supply of nickel outside of Canada, which in fact possesses nickeliferous pyrites without limit, the entire bleak region extending from Lake Superior to Labrador being rich in it. It is remarkable, indeed, that it is declared by experts that the Dominion can supply a million tons of the pure metal annually, if necessary, for an indefinite period.

Leather Colored by Electricity

Electricity is now used for coloring leather more quickly and deeply. The hide is stretched on a metallic table and covered with the coloring liquid; a pressure of a few volts is then applied between the liquid and the table, which opens the pores of the skin and allows the color to sink in.

Accepted His Deity.

A church meeting at Blackburn, England, lately, in parting with a lay assistant to whom it had made a farewell present, passed "a vote of confidence in Mr. Pedely and Mr. Pedely's God."

Treasures laid up in heaven don't stop drawing interest when the bank down here breaks.

DONOVAN IS ON DECK.

LONE STAR OF BAY TAKES THE LEGISLATURE BY STORM.

Honors Thrust on Him Thick and Fast and He Does a Little "Jollying" Himself—Given Choice of Seats—His Own Caucus Disagree.

Novel Opening Incidents.

John Donovan, of Bay, the lone star of the Michigan Democracy, who has been in the ascendancy since it was discovered that he had the entire minority of the Legislature of 1893 concealed about his person, reached his zenith Wednesday. Since he was discovered by the political astronomer a couple of months ago he has given evidence of the possession of so many bright and shining characteristics that no one will be surprised if he takes on a still greater luster as the days go by.

Wednesday was Donovan's first day in the Legislature, and he made the most of it, while his colleagues made the most of him. Donovan is a man of good hard sense and great modesty. He tried his best to keep his effulgence from eclipsing that of the ninety-nine lesser stars about him, but the latter insisted on his being brought into active service on every occasion.

Donovan sought the Capitol early and alone. He modestly took a seat away back by the lobby rail in Representative Hall. He hid behind a newspaper, hoping thereby to escape publicity, but had not been in the room five minutes before the newspaper men proclaimed his presence and that ended his seclusion.

First Call for Donovan.

"John Donovan of Bay," called Clerk Miller, with unusual emphasis and lung power, and as he did so a round of applause that rattled the windows was given. Donovan rose up slowly, bowed his head in acknowledgment, and moved up the aisle in a dignified manner. He signed the roll with a firm hand and took the oath. As he passed to his seat the applause again broke out. From that time until an adjournment was taken later in the afternoon John Donovan of Bay was constantly in evidence.

After the noon recess the work of selecting seats by lot as provided by an act of the last Legislature was about to be commenced when Representative Campbell of Ingham moved that Donovan be permitted to take his choice of seats before the drawing began. The motion was carried with cheers, whereupon Donovan of Bay made his first speech as a legislator. He simply returned his sincere thanks to the courtesy and expressed the hope that he might prove worthy of the honor done him. His modesty was again manifested by his selection of seat 55, in fifth row from the front, next the aisle.

Representative Chamberlain of Gogebic congratulated the minority on his consistency in sticking to odd numbers. Donovan retorted with the remark that "there is luck in odd numbers," and proved it a moment later when he was one of the first to be drawn from the box.

Does a Little Jollying Himself.

When the vote for Speaker was taken Donovan jollied up his ninety-nine Republican colleagues by bobbing up when his name was called and voting for Judge Gordon, the Republican nominee. He was given three cheers and a tiger for this, and the welkin rang again a moment later when Gordon retaliated by voting for John Donovan, of Bay. Donovan was made a member of the committee to escort the Speaker to the chair, and the cheers broke out afresh when he and the Speaker marched down the aisle arm in arm and ascended to the Speaker's chair.

Donovan came to the front again when he was made a member of the joint committee of Senators and Representatives to inform the Governor that the two houses were ready for business, and Gov. Rich received him with marked consideration. Having set the pace by voting for the Republican Speaker, Donovan still further increased his popularity by voting for all the Republican caucus nominees, remarking as he did so that the Democratic caucus was unable to agree upon a slate.

To Have a County Named for Him.

In the Senate Donovan's fame was added to by Senator Clapp, who gave notice of the introduction of a bill to change the name of Dickinson County to Donovan County, and the chances are that the change will be made.

In the afternoon Donovan called at the Hotel Downey to pay his respects to United States Senator McMillan, who was holding a reception there. McMillan received him with open arms and insisted on his removing his overcoat and sharing the honors with him for the balance of the afternoon. He occupied a front seat at the McMillan caucus in the evening, was one of the first to congratulate the Senator on his renomination, and it is given out that he will vote for him, and thus for the first time in the history of the State will a man be elected United States Senator by a unanimous vote of the Legislature.

He was a top-notch guest at the spread tendered the Legislature by Senator McMillan in the evening and had the best time of any one present. It was truly Donovan's greatest day and he made the most of it. While conducting himself in the manner of an intelligent, well-bred, dignified gentleman, he made himself the most popular member of the Legislature and for the balance of the session he has shared the honors with him for the balance of the session. Donovan has captured every one of them and they stand ready to give him the earth.

Minor State News.

Nearly all the officers of Bay City have been indicted for malfeasance in office by the grand jury.

At Manistee the Cameron Block, owned by Mayor Hart, was totally destroyed. The loss will amount to \$34,000.

Lapeer paid out \$1,000 last season for tramp board, and this season the jail is so full of vagrants that a decent man can hardly get in.

Prosecuting Attorney Dunton was sitting in his law office at Manistee reading a newspaper, with his feet against the stove. Suddenly there was a deafening explosion and the stove was blown to pieces, while part of a partition was loosened from the wall and ceiling. Mr. Dunton was not injured, but had a narrow escape. It was discovered that a two-inch auger hole had been bored about three-fourths of the way through a stick of hard wood and loaded with powder or dynamite and lightly plugged. It is thought that it was an attempt to fatally injure Mr. Dunton. Great indignation prevails.

TERRIBLE DISTRESS.

Disease Added to Other Tribulations

Additional dispatches have been received from Western Nebraska telling of the destitution and distress prevailing among the inhabitants of the drought-stricken districts. A dispatch from Hastings says:

"Terrible destitution exists in Perkins, Chase, Dundy, Lincoln, Hayes, Hitchcock and Frontier Counties, and the worst feature of it is that the people in several localities are afflicted with scurvy for want of wholesome food. The State Relief Committee finds itself unable to relieve all the people in distress, so great is the demand for aid. Railroad men report that since the cold snap no less than a dozen people perished in the above counties in the past two days for want of food and fuel."

Hundreds of families are without coal, and in the border counties, where no trees or brush exist, the poor people will have a hard time to keep from freezing to death. In Perkins County the destitution is complete. Over 600 families are appealing for help.

In Hitchcock County the wife of a settler gave birth to twins during the storm, and before neighbors could reach her home the poor woman expired for want of sufficient food and attention. The twins are still living and in charge of charitable neighbors.

North Platte reports that there are many cases of suffering and hunger among drought sufferers in Lincoln and Logan Counties.

Overseers of the poor state that unless aid comes from outside there will be many deaths from hunger and want of clothing this winter.

"The State Relief Commission has fifty families on its list as needing assistance and most distressing reports come in from all over the western part of the State relating to woful lack of food and clothing," says a Lincoln dispatch.

No deaths certainly attributable to starvation are yet reported, although it is claimed that a woman and two children found dead in a cabin near Nebraska the morning before Christmas died from lack of food and care. Coal is most needed and Mr. Ludden, of the State Relief Committee, and General Manager Holdredge, of the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad, are doing everything in their power to forward supplies to the more destitute localities. Very few farmers in the border counties have any stock left, having lost cattle and horses room at large. The people are living in covered wagons by hundreds rather than face starvation and freeze to death. More or less destitution exists in every county, from the Colorado line east to Hall and Adams Counties, and the various relief committees, although overwhelmed with applications for aid, are doing all they can to relieve the distress."

STRONG IS NOW MAYOR.

He Becomes the Executive Head of New York.

For the first time in twenty-two years a Mayor not of the Democratic faith is at the head of the New York city government. William L. Strong, who was on Tuesday inducted into the office, represents many of the same conditions and social elements that asserted themselves in 1872 in the elevation of William F. Havemeyer to the Mayoralty. In both instances there was a revolt against municipal corruption.

Upon both occasions public sentiment was crystallized through the medium of a committee of seventy, the main purpose in 1872 being to overthrow the Tweed regime, and in 1894 to correct abuses, known or suspected, in the police and other departments of the city government.

The exposure of the practice of levying blackmail by the police, particularly upon the criminal classes of society, who, in consideration of their payments of money, were granted immunity from arrest, was primarily the work of the Society for the Prevention of Vice, which procured the appointment of the State Senate Committee which has become famous under the name of its chairman, Mr. Lexow.

Without an enlargement of the powers of the Mayor, it is argued, says a correspondent, Mr. Strong, whatever may be his disposition, is as helpless to combat corruption in the departments as his predecessors in office have been. It is proposed to enact a law giving the Mayor power of removal over heads of bureaus and an absolute control of the police department. Under the present system, while the Mayor appoints members of the police board and other department chiefs, he may not remove them except through processes that practically amount to a deprivation of the power. The framing of new laws touching these points promises to be as important work as any that is likely to come before the State Legislature and to bring out as many conflicting theories.

Sparks from the Wires.

Stephen Welber, treasurer of McCook County, S. D., is short in his accounts and has been arrested.

Receiver Walker, of the Santa Fe, says it is not the intention to cease operating the Atlantic and Pacific.

Rail lines must reduce the cost of operation before they can again compete with lake lines in the carrying of grain.

Thomas Quinlan was sentenced at Bowling Green, Mo., to two years in the penitentiary for murdering Gottfried Kloppenstein, of Chicago, last December.

The importation of cattle into Belgium from Canada has been prohibited because of pleuro-pneumonia having been detected in some animals recently arrived.

Investigation shows that directors of the Commercial Bank, which failed at St. John's, N. F., had borrowed thousands of dollars from the bank and had overdrawn their accounts.

An American ex-detective named Dandridge, who was an occasional reporter for the Figaro, has been arrested at Paris on a charge of attempting to blackmail M. Senlis, the banker.

Frank Stallworth struck William Johnson a fatal blow on the head with a piece of iron at Miami, O. T. Harry Johnson, a brother of the victim, drew a revolver and killed Stallworth.

James Crum, who was released from custody at Guthrie, O. T., upon his turning State's evidence on fellow-counterfeiter, was rearrested on a charge of horse-stealing in Kansas.

GARDNER MAY GET IT

HE IS IN LINE FOR BURROWS' MANTLE.

Gov. Rich May Have to Call a Special Election to Choose a Secretary of State—Congressional Succession to Be Decided Soon.

Candidates in Plenty.

Lansing correspondence: It is not improbable within the next few months Gov. Rich will be called upon to appoint a new Secretary of State. A Republican leader of Kalamazoo County, from which Senator-elect Burrows comes, says there is but little doubt his county will favor the nomination for Congress of the Rev. Washington Gardner, who was appointed Secretary of State by Gov. Rich last March and elected in November. Secretary Gardner has frequently been mentioned as a Congressional possibility, and it is not improbable he will enter the race. He declines to say whether or not he will be a candidate, desiring time to consider the matter. Should he get the support of his own county, Calhoun, his nomination would be assured by the aid of Kalamazoo, as each of the other counties will have one or more candidates. The race for Congressman Burrows' place is on in earnest. In addition to Gardner the claims of Senator Clapp, of Battle Creek, are being urged, and still another possible Calhoun County candidate is ex-Senator Charles Austin, also of Battle Creek. In anticipation of the elevation of Burrows John M. C. Smith, of Eaton County, has for some time been keeping an eye on the main chance, and he has taken the field. When the special election to fill the vacancy is held many believe ex-Gov. Luce will be Branch County's candidate despite his assertions he is out of politics forever. If this declaration holds good the county may ask for the nomination of Lieut.-Gov. Alfred Milnes. The names mentioned from Hillsdale County are those of State Senator Oscar A. Jones, Col. E. J. March, and Corvis M. Barre, all of Hillsdale. Kalamazoo County, it is said, will have no candidate, and the outsider who can secure the support of his own county and that of Kalamazoo also will be nominated. It is believed by many that Secretary Gardner stands the best show of doing this.

Gov. Rich will not decide about calling a special election for some days. If left to his own devices he will not incur the expense of a special election to fill the vacancy, but will leave it to be filled at the general election the first Monday in April. The wishes of the voters of the district will go far toward determining this, however.

Minor State Notes.

The charity ball at Marshall netted \$200 for distribution among the needy.

Mrs. J. Pierce, a Stephenson widow with six children, drowned herself while temporarily insane.

Health officers of Detroit have discovered a case of small-pox being treated by Christian Scientists.

The 19-year-old bachelor who lived on \$2 a month at St. Helen, has recently been starved out and now lives on charity.

Mrs. Margaret Byl, an old resident of Chicago, who was visiting her son, J. J. Byl, of Benton Harbor, died suddenly, aged 78.

Levis Bushnell, of Osceola, recently had five tumors removed from his body. He is living, but only the choicest "cuts" of him are left.

The hearts of the lumbermen in Kalamazoo County were gladdened by about six inches of the beautiful. It will revive business all through the county.

There's a young man up in Kalamazoo that is in hard luck. He has had a marriage license for some days and a girl to go with it, but there's nary a minister in the vicinity that will marry them.

In the United States District Court at Cleveland, Ohio, a motion for the sale of the Toledo, Ann Arbor and North Michigan Railroad Company was made before Judge Links. This was agreed to by the parties interested. The motion for the sale was on the ground of a default in the payment of about \$450,000 interest on the first mortgage bonds. Bondholders representing about 90 per cent. of the bonded indebtedness of \$7,000,000 have agreed upon a plan of reorganization and the move made was in conformity with the plan of the bondholders' committee. If the road is ordered sold it will be bid in. The reorganization plan also contemplates the issuance of \$3,250,000 of common stock, \$4,000,000 of preferred stock, non-cumulative 5 per cent preferred stock, and \$7,000,000 of 4 per cent first mortgage bonds. These securities will be issued to take up all the outstanding securities and to improve the rolling stock and the road generally where it may be found necessary.

The teacher of an Oakland County district school had lots of trouble with half a dozen big-headed scholars who undertook to run the school. They brought their hunting outfit to school. Guns and ammunition were stacked in a corner, while a couple of yelping, floored hounds howled and held pitched battles as they struggled to break loose from the stove legs they were tied to. About recess the piratical looking students decamped with their outfit and hunted rabbits till the middle of the afternoon. Upon their return the teacher mildly informed them that they were out of order and a few seconds afterwards the schoolmarm was out of doors and out of a job. She resigned. A sturdy young auctioneer living in the vicinity was hired to teach. The smart Alecks undertook to thrash the auctioneer, but he knocked them down like second-hand truck at an auction. He turpented the hounds, and fired the ammunition out of their ears and several of the big scholars had to employ a dentist to probe for their "snoots" and pull those battered nasal organs back on their faces again. Now this is one of the most orderly schools in the State.

Out of the \$72,000 to be collected by Adrian's collector, \$22,000 came in Dec. 31. The taxes are more nearly paid in that city at this time than they have been for years.

Despondent through unrequited love, E. J. Twiss, son of Ald. John Twiss, of Port Huron, committed suicide at Ana Arbor by taking six grains of morphine. He was 24 years old, and a member of last year's senior law class. In his room was found a letter addressed to his mother, in which he said that he was tired of living, and wanted to join his dead brother Will.